

The Ohio State University Endeavor Center

Purpose

Open since 2005, The Ohio State University Endeavor Center, a 27,000 square-foot mixed-use business incubator, has come to be recognized as a community leader in economic development, business training, and technological excellence.

The original 26 permanent office spaces were expanded to 31 to satisfy demand for the flexible and professional office space provided in the facility for new and growing businesses. The latest renovation was completed to house the Manufacturing Field Engineer for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership – a position designed to provide assistance for small manufacturers in Southern Ohio.

The facility housed 21 individual businesses during the year and operated at more than 100% of its original occupancy capability. Endeavor Center business partners drove a surge in hiring, adding over 150 high-skill, high-wage positions during the year.

Impact

In the last five years of operation The Ohio State University Endeavor Center and its business partners have:

- Created more than 1,275 high-skill, high-wage jobs, adding more than \$105 million of direct economic activity to the local community.
- In cooperation with the Small Business Development Center of Ohio, sponsored or conducted 300 business workshops, training sessions, and seminars with nearly 5,000 attendees – business owners, prospective entrepreneurs, and ambitious employees seeking to improve the profitability of their businesses so they can grow and provide additional employment opportunities for those in the community.
- Directly and intimately assisted over 100 small businesses tackle obstacles to growth, supplying strategic and space resources required for expansion, resulting in the graduation of more than two dozen partners to the construction of their own facilities or



expansion into larger facilities in the local commercial real estate market.

In 2013 alone, over 100 business workshops, seminars, training events, and planning sessions were conducted in the Endeavor Center classrooms, attracting more than 1,500 participants.

The OSU Endeavor Center has become a hub of business activity and training in Southern Ohio, and is a recognized leader in assisting businesses with expanding and improving their operations. Overall, the economic impact of new positions created by Endeavor Center partners since its opening has had a major impact on the economic vitality of the region.



Ohio State Colleges/Units Involved

College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

Community Partners Involved

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economic Development Organization

United States Department of Agriculture

Governor's Office of Appalachia

Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative

Southern Ohio Agriculture and

Community Development

Foundation

Shawnee State University

Numerous small and large businesses

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Endeavor Center**

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**THE OHIO STATE
UNIVERSITY**

2014 Distinguished Community Engagement Award